

Message Text

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TO USMISSION NATO NIACT IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, NATO

SUBJECT: NATO SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT ON SUMMIT

1. UPI CARRYING FOLLOWING STORY:

QUOTE: PRESIDENT FORD IS CONSIDERING PLANS TO FLY TO EUROPE SOON TO MEET WITH LEADERS OF THE OTHER 14 NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION NATIONS, A NATO SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY.

IT WOULD BE FORD'S FIRST TRIP TO EUROPE SINCE HE BECAME PRESIDENT, ALTHOUGH HE HAS MET WITH SEVERAL NATO CHIEFS OF STATE IN WASHINGTON.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT, ALTHOUGH NO FINAL
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DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN, THE ALLIES ARE 'EXAMINING' THE

POSSIBILITY OF A WESTERN SUMMIT IN LATE SPRING OR EARLY SUMMER.

SUCH A SUMMIT, HE SAID, COULD TAKE PLACE AT NATO HEAD-QUARTERS HEREON MAY 29-30 -- THE DATE ORIGINALLY SET FOR THE ANNUAL SPRING MEETING OF NATO FOREIGN MINISTERS.

NATO SOURCES SUGGESTED, THOUGH, THAT THE WESTERN SUMMIT

ALSO COULD BE HELD JUST BEFORE OR JUST AFTER A POSSIBLE 35-NATION SUMMIT ON EUROPEAN SECURITY. THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN PRESSING FOR SOME TIME FOR SUCH A 35-NATION SUMMIT TO WIND UP THE CURRENT EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE. END QUOTE

2. PLEASE CABLE SOONEST FULL TEXT OF SPOKESMAN'S STATEMENT, PLUS ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO YOU AS TO BASIS AND AUTHORIZATION OF STATEMENT.

3. MISSION SHOULD REFRAIN FROM COMMENTING OR SPECULATING PUBLICLY ON POSSIBILITY OF SUMMIT. INGERSOLL

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